

MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



Published Semi-Monthly by the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service and the Maryland Department of Agriculture

AF-21-01

November 19, 2001

CROP PRODUCTION

CONTENTS

Agricultural Survey
Crop Production
Farm Labor
Release Calendar

Maryland: Based on conditions November 1st, corn and soybean production are expected to be down from 2000. **Corn** production is forecast at 59 million bushels, down 5 percent from last year, but up 77 percent from 1999. Yield is projected at 138 bushels per acre, down 17 bushels from last year's estimate of 155. According to the *Crop Progress and Condition Report* for October 29, Corn harvesting stood at 87 percent complete.

Soybean production is forecast at 20.4 million bushels, down 8 percent from last year but up 33 percent from 1999. Yield is forecast at 40 bushels per acre, down 3 bushels from 2000's final estimate of 43 bushels per acre. The soybean yield increased 1 bushel per acre from October, resulting in a 3 percent increase in production. As evidenced by the *Crop Progress and Condition Report* for October 29, soybean harvesting has passed the halfway mark and was reported at 62 percent complete.

Tobacco production is forecast at 2.4 million pounds for 2001, down 71 percent from 2000's production of 8.3 million pounds. Yield is projected at 1,400 pounds per acre. This yield forecast remains unchanged from the October Crop Production Report.

United States: **Corn** for grain production is forecast at 9.55 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month, but down 4 percent from 2000. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 138.0 bushels per acre, up 1.7 bushels from last month. If realized, this would be the fourth largest production and second highest yield on record. Farmers in Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska found larger than expected yields as late planted fields reached maturity under ideal conditions and harvest accelerated after mid-October. Yield prospects in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin remained high despite heavy October precipitation that slowed harvest.

Soybean production is forecast at record high 2.92 billion bushels, up 1 percent from October 1, and 6 percent above 2000. The yield forecast, at 39.4 bushels per acre, up 0.2 bushel from last month, and is 1.3 bushels above the 2000 final yield. Acreage for harvest is estimated at a record 74.1 million acres, unchanged from October 1, but up 2 percent from 2000. Yield increases in the Great Plains and Mississippi Valley regions more than offset yield decreases in the northern mid-Atlantic States and Ohio.

ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2000 AND 2001

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
Maryland		<i>1,000 Acres</i>						<i>1,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	480	510	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	405	430	155	138	62,775	59,340
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	70	²	20	²	1,400	²
Soybeans	BU	520	520	515	510	43	40	22,145	20,400
Sorghum ¹	BU	10	9	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	9	8	84	²	756	²
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	1	²	15	²	15	²
Winter Wheat	BU	220	190	200	175	63	63	12,600	11,025
Barley	BU	55	55	50	51	82	75	4,100	3,825
All Hay	TON	----	----	235	215	3.03	²	711	²
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	65	60	4.4	²	286	²
Other Hay	TON	----	----	170	155	2.5	²	425	²
Tobacco	LBS	----	----	5.7	1.7	1,450	1,400	8,265	2,380
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	260	260	1,222	1,222
United States								<i>1,000,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	79,545	76,009	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	72,732	69,191	137.1	138.0	9,968	9,546
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	5,868	²	17	²	99	²
Soybeans	BU	74,266	75,216	72,408	74,137	38.1	39.4	2,758	2,923
Sorghum ¹	BU	9,195	10,047	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	7,723	8,777	60.9	61.2	470	537
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	265	²	10.8	²	3	²
Wheat, Winter	BU	43,393	41,078	35,072	31,295	44.7	43.5	1,566	1,361
Barley	BU	5,864	4,967	5,213	4,289	61.1	58.2	319	250

¹ Acres planted is for all purposes.

² Published January 2002

FARM LABOR

There were 1.22 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of October 7-13, 2001, 2 percent fewer than a year ago. There were 959,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 262,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 12.1 percent of the October hired workforce, compared with 11.3 percent in October 2000. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.58 per hour during the October 2001 survey week, up 29 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.01 per hour, up 27 cents from last October. Livestock workers earned \$8.36 per hour compared with \$7.84 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate at \$8.08 was up 32 cents from last year.

FARM LABOR: EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES, UNITED STATES, OCTOBER 07-14, 2001, WITH COMPARISON ¹			
FARM EMPLOYMENT	OCTOBER 08-14, 2000	JULY 08-14, 2001	OCTOBER 07-13, 2001
<i>THOUSAND</i>			
Hired Workers			
Expected to be Employed	952	1,039	959
150 Days or More	662	722	676
149 Days or Less	290	317	283
Agricultural Services Workers Working on Farms	288	335	262
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,240	1,374	1,221
<i>HOURS PER WEEK</i>			
Hours Worked Hired	41.2	39.9	41.5
<i>DOLLARS PER HOUR</i>			
Wage Rates for All Hired Workers ^{2 3}	8.29	8.29	8.58
Type of Worker			
Field & Livestock Combined	7.76	7.75	8.08
Field	7.74	7.70	8.01
Livestock	7.84	7.89	8.36

*Revised

¹ Excludes AK.

² Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

³ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

AGRICULTURAL SURVEY

How many acres will be planted to winter wheat? What will happen to the cattle inventory number this year? What will be the 2001 crop production? To gather reliable, objective information, the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service (MASS) will be surveying farmers for the December Agricultural Survey and the January Cattle Survey. There is always speculation about each new crop season and agricultural producers are the main source for the facts. The information gathered is widely used. Producers rely on the data to reach valid production, marketing, and investment decisions. The 2001 crop production and 2002 wheat and rye seeding reports will be released January 11, 2002. The cattle inventory report will be released on February 2, 2002. Both reports can be accessed at www.usda.gov/nass.

DECEMBER RELEASE CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3	4 Dairy Products	5 Broiler Hatchery	6	7 Poultry Slaughter
10	11 Crop Production	12 Broiler Hatchery	13 Turkey Hatchery	14 Milk Production
17	18	19 Broiler Hatchery	20 Cold Storage	21 Chickens & Eggs Livestock Slaughter
24	25 HOLIDAY	26	27 Broiler Hatchery	28 Hogs and Pigs
31 Agricultural Prices				

Reports can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT RAY GARIBAY, STATE STATISTICIAN AT (410) 841-5740

E:mail: nass-md@nass.usda.gov